

The TECT Tauranga Campus First-in-Family Scholarship (previously the Tauranga Campus First-in-Family Scholarship) was established in 2018 to assist students from families with no history of tertiary level study to participate in a university education at the University of Waikato in Tauranga.



The scholarships are funded by TECT Community Trust and up to 16 Scholarships will be available each year. The funds are held in trust by the University of Waikato Foundation and will be offered until 2029 when it is anticipated the funds will be fully depleted.

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The Scholarships provide financial support to first-year undergraduate students studying full-time at the University of Waikato in Tauranga, especially those that might have personal financial and/or cultural challenges to overcome in order to attend university.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

- 2.1. **To be eligible**, applicants must meet all the following criteria:
 - 2.1.1. Be the first member of their immediate family/whānau to attend university (i.e., neither of the applicant's birth parents/caregivers nor any full or half-siblings have previously attended university).
 - 2.1.2. Be intending to enrol full-time (a full-time academic year comprises 120-points) in the first year of an undergraduate degree at the University Waikato in Tauranga with at least 75% of papers undertaken at the Tauranga campus.
 - 2.1.3. Have studied at least one year at NCEA Level 1, 2 and/or 3 at a secondary school in New Zealand.
 - 2.1.4. Have not undertaken previous tertiary-level study at any other institution.
 - 2.1.5. Be eligible for domestic fees status (i.e., be a NZ Citizen, NZ Permanent Resident, NZ Resident Class Visa holder, or Australian Citizen/Permanent Resident domiciled in NZ).
- 2.2. **Selection is primarily based on:**
 - 2.2.1. The applicant's commitment to succeed at university study at the University of Waikato Tauranga campus.
 - 2.2.2. Academic achievements at secondary school.
 - 2.2.3. Financial need (and/or extraordinary personal circumstances).
- 2.3. Preference may be given to applicants with an affiliation with the Western Bay of Plenty region.

- 2.4. **To maintain eligibility**, recipients must in the year of tenure:
 - 2.4.1. Be accepted into their programme of study.
 - 2.4.2. Enrol full-time (a full-time academic year comprises 120-points) in the first year of an undergraduate degree in the year of tenure.
 - 2.4.3. Have at least 75% of enrolled papers based at Tauranga campus.

3. Value, Tenure and Awarding

- 3.1. The Scholarship value is **\$2,500** and will be paid directly to the successful recipients in one lump sum after the withdrawal date for A Trimester.
- 3.2. The Scholarship has a maximum tenure of one year and must be taken up in the year for which it is offered.
- 3.3. Successful applicants will be advised of the offer of a Scholarship via their MyWaikato portal and must accept the offer by the prescribed date or the offer will lapse, and the scholarship may be offered to the next reserve applicant.

4. Application

- 4.1. The closing date for online applications is **1 November annually**.
- 4.2. As part of the online application process, each applicant must provide information on the following:
 - 4.2.1. What it means to the applicant and/or their family to be the first-in-family at university.
 - 4.2.2. Future aspirations and motivation to succeed at university.
 - 4.2.3. Why the course of study will enhance their life-long opportunities.
 - 4.2.4. Academic and/or life experience.
- 4.3. Each applicant must also request from people who **are NOT family members**:
 - 4.3.1. a Statement of Confirmation which includes the person's relationship to the applicant and confirms that the applicant is the first person in in their family to attend university.
 - 4.3.2. the submission of a character reference.
- 4.4. The University of Waikato will access the applicants' NCEA School Results directly from NZQA.

5. Selection Panel

- 5.1. The Scholarship Selection Panel will comprise the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee) as the Chair, a representative of the TECT Community Trust nominated by the Chair of the Trust, and one academic staff member based at Tauranga Campus appointed by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (or nominee).
- 5.2. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no applicant(s) of sufficient merit.
- 5.3. The Selection Panel's decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into following the selection meeting.

6. Other Conditions

- 6.1. The Scholarship may be held with any other scholarship, award or prize, unless the conditions of the other award preclude this. Where more than one tuition fees scholarship is held, and the total value of the combined scholarships exceed the tuition fees, the remainder of the scholarship will be forfeit (i.e., no cash disbursements will be provided).
- 6.2. Should a recipient withdraw from any papers, without adding sufficient papers to maintain an overall enrolment in a minimum of 120-points for the academic year, the University may ask for the Scholarship to be repaid.
- 6.3. In accepting the Scholarship, the recipient will:
 - 6.3.1. be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the conditions of the Scholarship and the [Scholarships Policy](#).
 - 6.3.2. agreed to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.
- 6.4. Recipients should seek independent financial advice about any tax implications of their Scholarship.
- 6.5. The Scholarships Committee may terminate this Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the holder withdraws from the University of Waikato, brings the Scholarship, University or Sponsor into disrepute¹, or is otherwise not complying with the conditions governing the Scholarship and/or the regulations of the University of Waikato. The holder of a Scholarship will have the right to appeal to the Scholarships Executive against any decision to terminate the award.
- 6.6. The Scholarships Committee has the power to amend or vary these regulations, in consultation with the Donor, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.

¹ See [Student Code of Conduct](#)